

Mercury.

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Historical

MEMOIR OF RHODE ISLAND,
1689.

in the place of a governor, giving satisfactory reasons to the assembly; whereupon the Assembly went to the election of another, and chose Mr. **Henry Bull** Governor and elected Mr. **Benedict Arnold** assistant in the room of **Walter Newbury**, and Mr. **John Coggeshall** being sent for, appeared and refused to serve, whereupon the court proceeded to the election of an assistant, and then proceeded to engage the Governor, Deputy Governor, and all the Assistants, who accordingly received the same, as also elected a General Treasurer, viz. Mr. **John Helmes**, who was also engaged.

A Committee was appointed and sent to the Governor to demand the charter, and other State papers in his possession, who

The return of the committee is, that Walter Clarke abovesaid refused to deliver the charter and writings, but declared it was in a chest and he would give leave to take it; whereupon the committee were empowered and ordered to take it accordingly. But their return was, that he refused to let the charter go unless the committee would forcibly open the chest and take it.

A committee was appointed to demand of the former Treasurer the amount in his hands, and in case of his refusal to take it by distress; the amount was stated to be £30 in money and 300 lbs of wool, which

was appropriated for the perfecting the colony house in Newport, by which we find, the house was built but not finished at the time.

"March 3d.—Ordered that the seal brought in by Mr. Arnold Collins, being the 'Anchor' with the motto 'Hope' is appointed to be the seal of the Colony; in having been employed by this Assembly to make it.

The King's Proclamation of war against the French was ordered to be proclaimed by beat of drum, and a watch and ward ordered to be set, and kept, in each town in the colony.

"Ordered, that the Frenchmen that re-

side at Narragansett he sent for by Major John Greene, to what place in Warwick he shall appoint, to signify unto them the King's pleasure in his proclamation of war, and his indulgence to such Frenchmen as behave themselves well; and require their engagement thereto."

"Ordered, that a duplicate of the address, sent to their majesties, by the deputies to Governor and Council, be transmitted and sent to their majesties from this Assembly, and subscribed by the clerk of this Assembly in their behalf."

New Commissions were ordered to be issued to all the military officers in the colony.

The Gov. of New York applied to the colony to aid in the war against the French.

and Indians; to which they answered "that this colony being small and the port of Newport being the principal port, would find it to oppose an enemy; therefore concluded upon, that necessity requires, for the preservation of their majesties interest here, that we cannot assist in men, but nevertheless, we are willing to assist, by paying money according to reasonable proportion."

1699.

There was, evidently two parties in the colony, the royal, and republican party; the former considered the act of surrendering the charter to King James the second, binding upon the colony, in which opinion they were doubtless joined

mainly moderate men, who also believed that further authority from England was necessary, to enable the colony to reestablish government in a legal manner. The republican party preferred resuming charter, and trusting to circumstances for the accomplishment of their wishes; and as the event turned out, it appears to be judged right, for if they had applied for authority from England for that purpose it is no way probable that they could have obtained like privileges as those contained in their charter. The people were by means unanimous in their opinion of the validity of the government. The town of Providence and some others sent delegates to the last assembly; and had threatened with invasion from the French the rays ordered for the defense of the colony, were not attended to by the town of Providence, Portsmouth, Warrum, Westerly, Jamestown, Kingstown, and East Greenwich by which cause the

erty was imprudently with the means necessary for the commutation. By the pre-
reversal of the republican party, in calling
and holding general Assemblies, in
enacting and enforcing laws, by all
means in their power; and more parti-
cularly by the silent acquiescence of
Government of the mother country,
colonial government, under the char-
acter acquired reputation and strength, and
finally embraced by the greater part of
opposition, and became again the founda-
tion of the government, and, as it had
been the basis of the republic.

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Whip	Whip
Lash	Lash
Spade	Spade
Sey	Sey
Matt	Matt
Gard	Gard
Nail	Nail
Hoe	Hoe
Show	Show
Rub	Rub

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